

THE
GROWTH OF CHRISTIANITY
DURING NINETEEN CENTURIES

EXHIBITED IN
A SERIES OF CHARTS AND NUMERICAL TABLES

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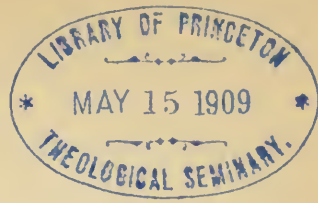
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Van Lennep, A. O.

The growth of Christianity
during nineteen centuries



THE

GROWTH OF CHRISTIANITY

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BY

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A. O. VAN LENNEP

AND

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A. F. SCHAUFFLER

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INTRODUCTION.

THE design of this pamphlet is to present in *compact form* such religious data of the human race since the year A. D. 1 as may be helpful to all interested in the progress of Religion. So many wild claims are made in these days about the decline of Evangelical Religion, claims based on the ignorance and upheld by the hopes of Free-thinkers, Agnostics, Romanists, and other opponents of Protestant Christianity, that a few stubborn facts seem to be called for, put into such condensed form as shall command general attention. The cry of the Agnostic Scientist is for *facts*. He here will find an abundant supply, from the best sources, which he may with profit "read, mark, and inwardly digest."

Should pastors make use of the accompanying tables in their monthly concerts, they may find incentives to more earnest work on the part of the Church, drawn from the great progress of Evangelical Religion in spite of the small pecuniary outlay by the Churches. On the other hand, the last table will account for the bitter fact that more progress has not been made. When Christ's Church shall be as lavish in its outlay of men and money as the world is, the conversion of Nations will not long be postponed.

By far the larger part of the work involved in the preparation of this pamphlet was done by Mr. A. O. Van Lennep, so well known by Sunday School workers, as the "Oriental Lecturer." Since the work was put into the publisher's hands, Mr. Van Lennep has gone to his rest. The Sunday School teachers of Chautauqua, Framingham, and other summer assemblies have thus lost a gentle and laborious fellow-worker and teacher, whose place it will be hard to fill.

A. F. SCHAUFFLER.

NEW YORK, November 19, 1883.

PROGRESS OF THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION IN THE WORLD.

This will be considered under five different phases.

FIRST.

PROGRESS OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE WORLD FROM A. D. 1 TO A. D. 1880.

No specific data exist on the subject of numbers, except in a general way, from A. D. 1 to 1000; but the best authorities give 50 millions as the number of Christians in A. D. 1000, and so for the different years as follows:

A. D.	1	Beginning of Christian era.
"	1000	50 Millions of Christians.
"	1500	100 " " "
"	1700	155 " " "
"	1800	200 " " "
"	1880	415 " " "

By what precedes we find the following gains:

<i>From A. D.</i>	<i>Average per year</i>
1 to 1000, or in 1000 yrs.,	50 Millions. 50,000
1000 " 1500, " 500 " 50 "	100,000
1500 " 1700, " 200 " 55 "	275,000
1700 " 1800, " 100 " 45 "	450,000
1800 " 1880, " 80 " 215 "	2,688,000

Or, An increase of 50 Millions in	1000 years,
Doubling in the next	500 "
Doubling again after	300 "
And more than doubling during the last	80 "

N. B.—It should be borne in mind that the Protestant Reformation began in 1500, that the great awakening under Wesley took place during the last century, and the inauguration of Foreign and Home Missions only at the beginning of the present century.

The authorities consulted for the above statistics are Ferussac, "*Bulletin Universel*," for A. D. 1500 to 1800; and Turner's "*History of the Anglo-Saxons*," for A. D. 1000. Prof. Schem, in "*Statistics of the World*" for 1876, gives the number of Christians for 1875 as 389 millions; and for 1880 (as reported by Dr. Dorchester, in "*Problem of Religious Progress*,") as 410,900,000. Returns, however, from several European and other countries, where the census was taken in 1880 and only recently come to hand, increase these figures to about 415 millions. See "*The Statesman's Year Book*" for 1882 and 1883.

SECOND.

GROWTH OF THE POPULATION OF THE WORLD UNDER CHRISTIAN GOVERNMENTS; VIZ., ROMAN CATHOLIC, GREEK CHURCH, AND PROTESTANT GOVERNMENTS.

This table begins with the Reformation:

<i>Under Govern- ments of</i>	<i>Roman Catholics</i>	<i>Greek Church</i>	<i>Protestants</i>
A. D. 1500	80 Millions	20 Millions	
" 1700	90 "	33 "	32 Millions
" 1830	134 "	57 "	193 "
" 1880	192 "	110 "	445 "

Showing 747 millions of the human race under Christian governments in 1880.

A.D. 1

Progress of Christianity in the Centuries.

A.D.
1000

50. Millions

A.D.
1500

100 Millions

A.D.
1700

155. M.

1800

200. M.

1880

415. M.

From "Problem of Religious Progress" by Dorchester.

A.D.
1500

80

20

100. M.

Growth of Populations
under Ro.Catholic,
Greek Church &
Protestant Governments.

1700

90

33

32

155 Millions

R.C.

G.

P.

1800

1830

134

60

193

387. M.

1880

192

110

445

747

R.C. Under Ro.Catholic Governments

G.

"

Greek.Ch.

d°

P

"

Protestant

d°

From Problems of "Religious Progress" with Modifications.

According to recent returns, England alone has now over 303 millions under her sway.

N. B.—The authorities for the above table are, for 1500 and 1700, Turner's "History of Anglo-Saxons," and Seaman's "Progress of Nations," and Adrian Balbi, "Geographie Universelle"; while the figures for 1880 have been compiled from "Statesman's Year Book," in 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883.

THIRD.

THE STATE OF THE RELIGIOUS WORLD IN 1880.

According to Behm and Wagner, the population of the world in 1880 was as follows:

Europe	327,500,000
Asia	795,591,000
Africa	205,823,200
Australia	4,232,000
America	100,415,400
Polar Regions	82,500
	<hr/>
	1,433,644,100

Divided as follows:

Christians, Protestants . . .	135 Millions
Roman Catholics . . .	195 "
Eastern Church . . .	85 " 415 Millions
Mohammedans	175 "
Jews	8 "
Pagans (Shintos, Buddhists, Brahminists, Fe- tish, etc.)	835 "
	<hr/>
	1,433 "

See "Modern Missions: their Trials and Triumphs" (Young), London, and "Die Bevölkerung der Erde," Behm and Wagner.

Rev. H. H. Jessup, D.D., for many years a missionary in Syria, is our authority for putting the Mohammedans as high as 175 millions. He is also our authority for the number of Mohammedans under Christian governments as follows:

Under Great Britain	41,000,000
“ Russia	6,000,000
“ France	2,000,000
“ Netherlands	21,000,000
	<hr/>
	70,000,000

N. B.—“The Mohammedan Missionary Problem,” by Dr. Jessup, gives the number under the Netherlands as *one million*. He has informed us that it should be 21 millions instead.

These data show the following relative gains since the Reformation:

	<i>Under R. C. Gov.</i>		<i>Under Greek Ch. Gov.</i>		<i>Under Prot. Gov.</i>	
	GAINS	AVR. PER YR.	GAINS	AVR. PER YR.	GAINS	AVR. PER YR.
First 200yrs.	10 M.	50,000	13 M.	65,000	32 M.	160,000
Next 130 “	44 “	340,000	27 “	209,000	161 “	1,240,000
Last 50 “	58 “	1,160,000	50 “	1,000,000	252 “	5,040,000

FOURTH.

RELIGIOUS POPULATION OF EUROPE IN A. D. 1500 (THE BEGINNING OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION) AND IN THE YEAR 1880.

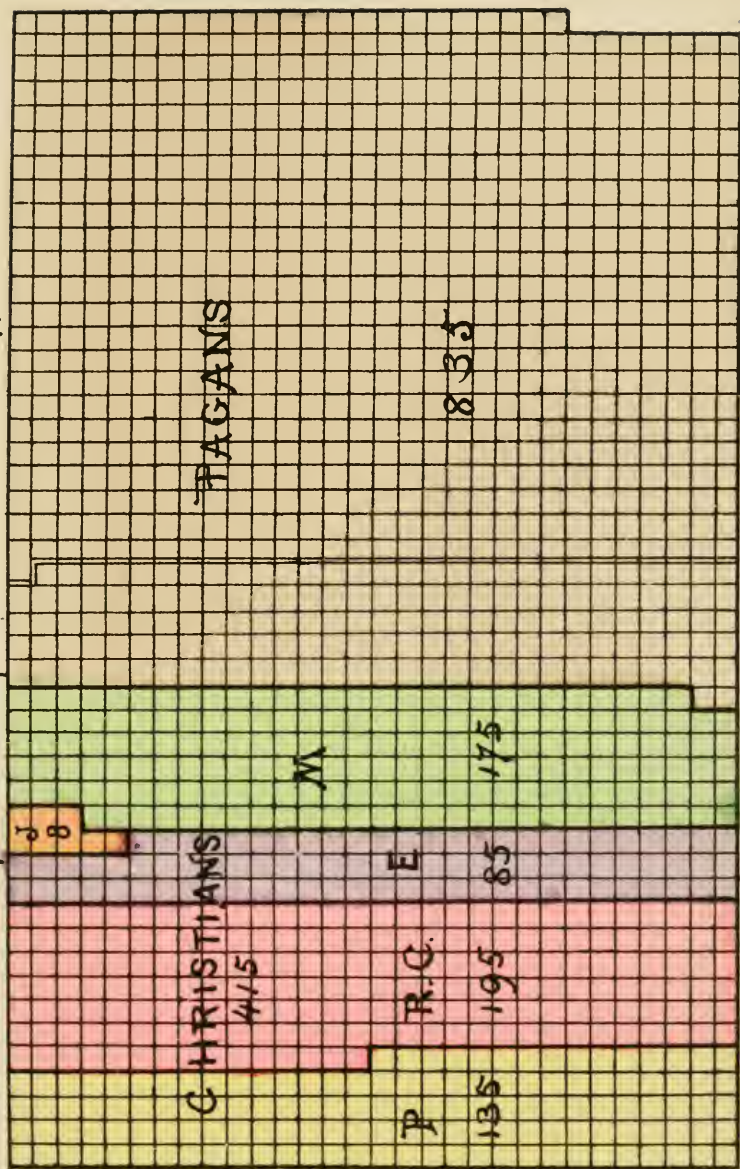
In A. D. 1500.

Roman Catholics 80,000,000
 Adherents of Greek Church, Mohammedans,
 and Jews 20,000,000
 Protestants, a handful.

Population of Europe in 1500 100,000,000

Religions of the World in 1880

Population of the Globe 1433,887,500.



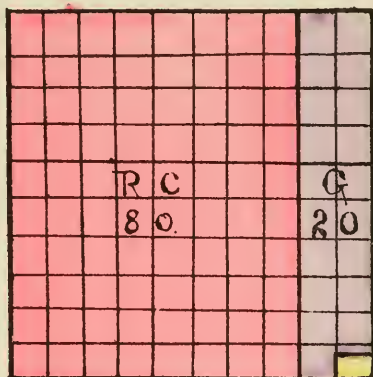
P. Protestants R.C. Ro. Catholics E. Eastern Churches: J. Jews.

M. Mohamēdāns. Every Square One Million

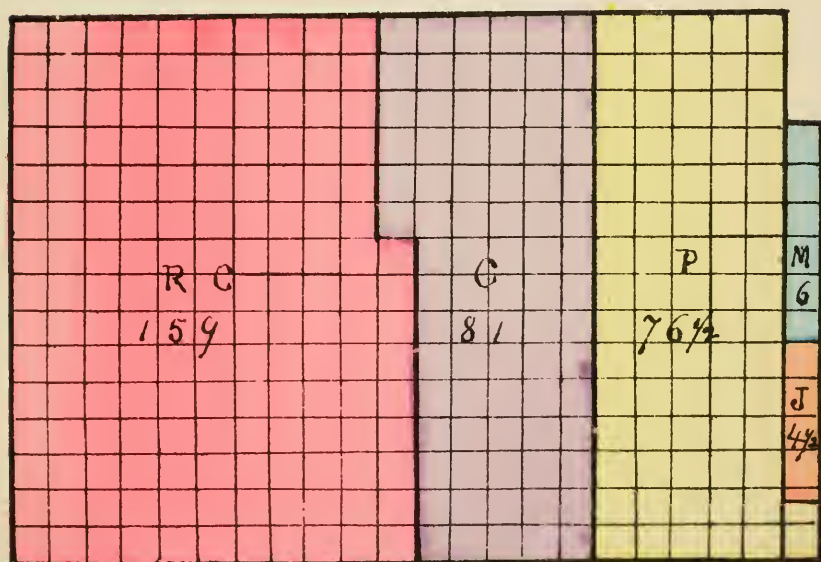


Religious Populations of Europe

A.D. 1500. 100 M.



A.D. 1880. 327 Millions



R.C. Ro. Catholics

G. Greek. Eastern Churches

P. Protestants

M. Mohammedans. J. Jews

Every sq. One Million.

According to Seaman's "Progress of Nations":

In 1880.

Roman Catholics	159,315,155
Adherents of Greek and Eastern Churches . . .	81,148,062
Protestants	76,688,882
Mohammedans	5,309,989
Jews	4,515,425
Not classified	524,487
	<hr/>
	327,502,000

N. B.—These last figures are compiled from the latest data procured by Behm and Wagner and "The Statesman's Year Book," London, which contain the returns of recent government reports from Russia, Italy, and other countries, where the census had not been taken for several years.

FIFTH.

RELIGIOUS STATISTICS OF THE UNITED STATES AS COMPARED WITH ITS POPULATION, FROM 1800 TO 1880.

These statistics show the increase of the population of the United States and of the Protestants and Roman Catholics at four different times; viz., 1800, 1850, 1870, and 1880 (the only dates obtainable). The data of the Roman Catholics are taken from their own authorities; and the Evangelical data are compiled from the reports of the divers religious bodies. (See, "Problem of Religious Progress," by Dorchester.) To the number of communicants of the latter $2\frac{1}{2}$ have been added to represent the probable number of persons, including children, who are members of the congregations though not communicants. They have been put down in a separate column under the term of *Adherents*. To the so-called Liberal denominations we have also added $2\frac{1}{2}$ members to their official returns, but have not kept them separate.

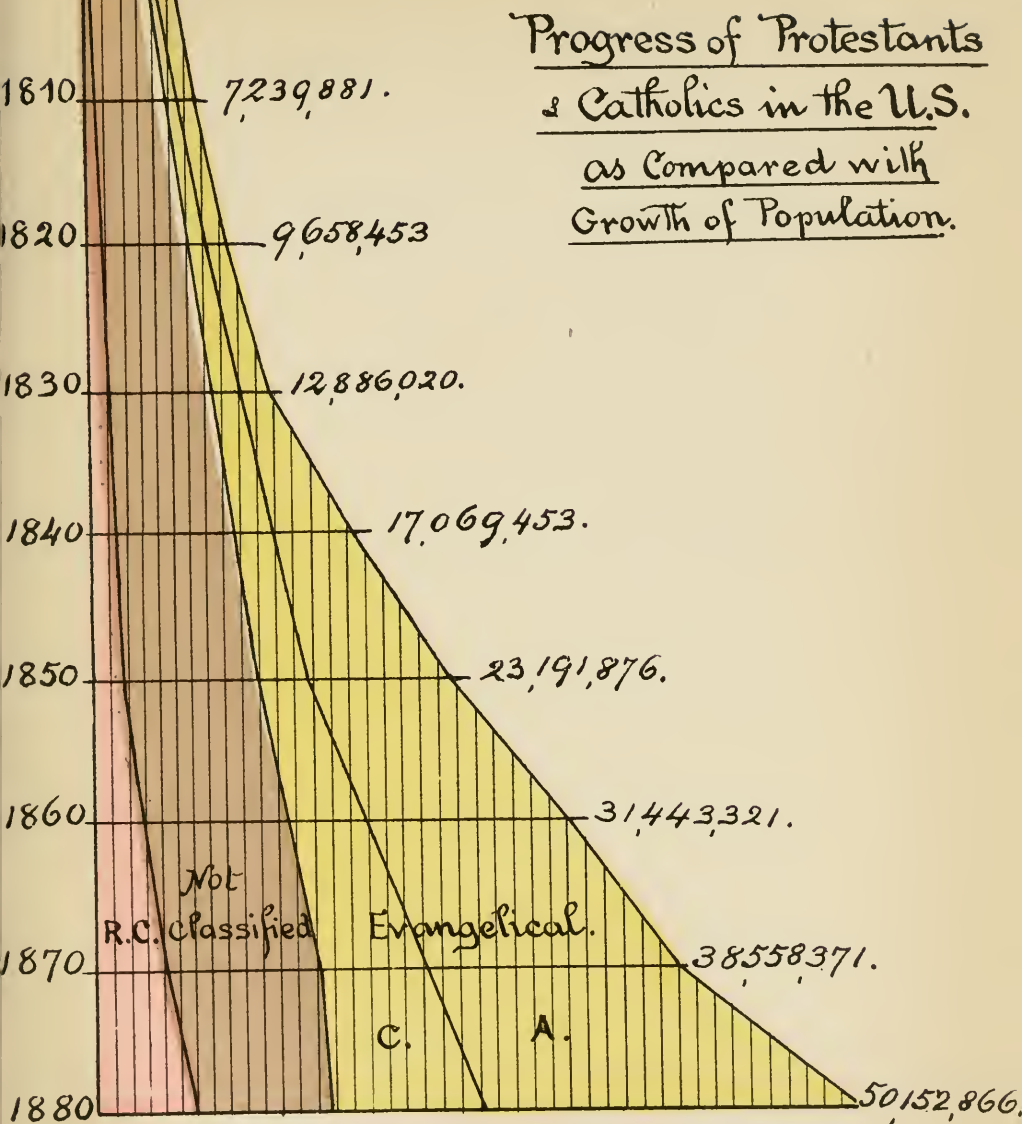
After deducting the Catholics and Evangelicals from the total population, the remainder have been put down as non-classified, which of course includes Indians, Mormons, and Chinese.

In compiling the annexed table of statistics, we have availed ourselves of the very elaborate researches of Dr. Dorchester, in "Problem of Religious Progress." See chapter on "Religious Progress and Status in the United States."

TABLE SHOWING THE RELIGIOUS STATISTICS OF THE UNITED STATES, AS COMPARED WITH ITS POPULATION, IN THE YEARS 1800, 1850, 1870, AND 1880.

	A. D. 1800	A. D. 1850	A. D. 1870	A. D. 1880	
	No. for 100 of population.	No. for 100 of population.	No. for 100 of population.	No. for 100 of population.	
Ev. Cmts.	364,872	3,529,988	6,673,396	10,065,963	20
" Adhnts.	912,180	8,824,970	16,683,490	25,164,907	50
Total Ev.	1,277,052	12,354,958	23,356,886	35,230,870	70
R. Cath.	100,000	1,614,000	4,600,000	6,367,000	12½
Libs. (Unit., Univ., etc.)	not given	368,200	684,600	801,104	1½
Unclassified	3,928,873	8,854,718	9,916,885	7,753,892	16½
Total Pop.	5,305,925	23,191,876	38,558,371	50,152,866	100

1800 5,308,483 U.S. Census.



R.C. Ro. Catholics.

C. Communicants.

A. Adherents.

The spaces between the lines One Million.

from "Problem of Religious Progress" by Dorchester with modifications -

From these statistics it appears that the increase of population of the United States, as compared with the Communicants of Evangelical Churches, was as follows:

	<i>Pop.</i>	<i>Comts.</i>
From 1850 to 1870 (20 years)	66 per cent.	89 per cent.
“ 1870 “ 1880 (10 “)	30 “	50 “

In another form:

Communicants in 1800	1 in $14\frac{1}{2}$
“ “ 1850	“ “ $6\frac{1}{2}$
“ “ 1870	“ “ $5\frac{3}{4}$
“ “ 1880	“ “ 5

N. B.—In accounting for the large percentage of “unclassified” in Chart No. V, we presume that the Church statistics gathered in the earlier years of this century were defective, leaving many to be numbered as “unclassified” who really belonged to the Evangelical ranks.

OTHER FACTS WORTH CONSIDERING.

AMOUNTS RAISED IN THE UNITED STATES FOR FOREIGN
MISSIONS FROM 1810 TO 1880.

From 1810 to 1819	10 years	\$206,210.
" 1820 " 1829	10 "	745,718.
" 1830 " 1839	10 "	2,885,839.
" 1840 " 1849	10 "	5,078,922.
" 1850 " 1859	10 "	8,427,284.
" 1860 " 1869	10 "	13,074,129.
" 1870 " 1880	11 "	24,861,482.

AMOUNTS RAISED IN THE UNITED STATES FOR HOME
MISSIONS FROM 1810 TO 1880.

From 1810 to 1819	10 years	no record.
" 1820 " 1829	10 "	\$233,826.
" 1830 " 1839	10 "	2,342,712.
" 1840 " 1849	10 "	3,062,354.
" 1850 " 1859	10 "	8,080,109.
" *1860 " 1869	10 "	21,015,719.
" 1870 " 1880	11 "	31,272,154.

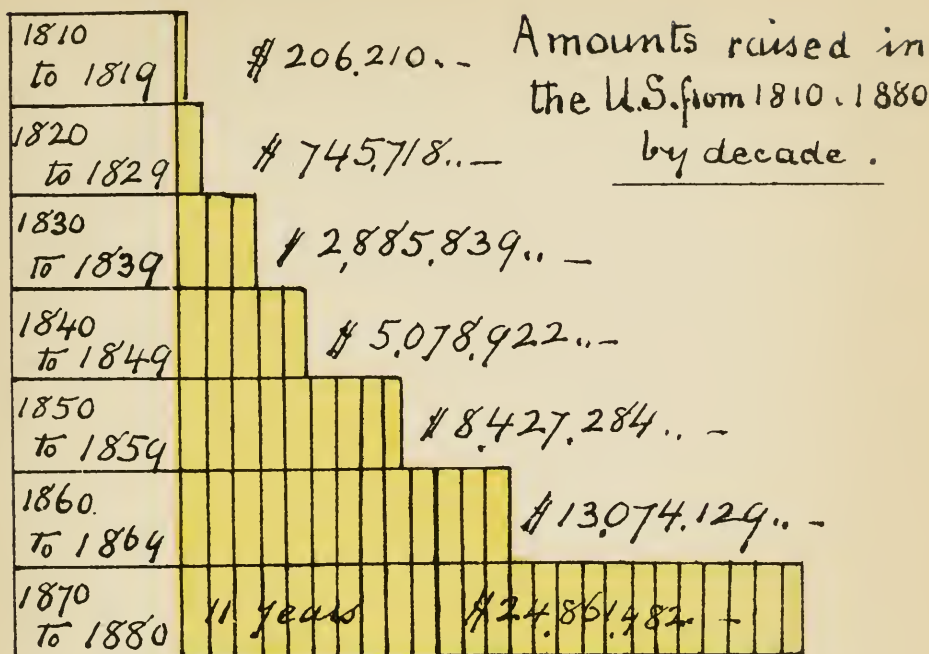
These statistics are taken from *Dorchester*, "Problem of Religious Progress." See p. 358.

The preceding tables give the following results as the average contributions per year to the two causes for the last 80 years:

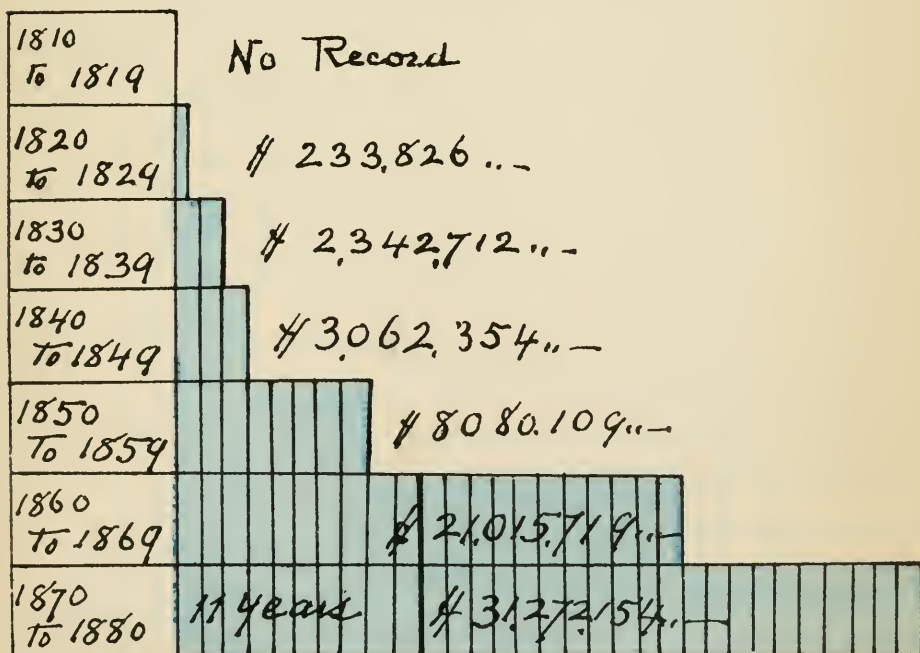
	For. Mis.	Home Mis.
From 1810 to 1819 aver. per year	\$20,621.	
" 1820 " 1829 " "	74,571.	\$23,382.
" 1830 " 1839 " "	288,583.	234,271.
" 1840 " 1849 " "	507,892.	306,235.
" 1850 " 1859 " "	842,728.	808,010.
" 1860 " 1869 " "	1,307,412.	2,105,571.
" 1870 " 1880 " "	2,260,136.	2,842,923.

* Contributions for the Christian Commission through "The Y. M. C. A." are included in the returns for 1860 to 1869.

For Foreign Missions



For Home Missions.



Thus the cause of Foreign Missions is first started, stimulating the Home Mission Work, which in its turn receives greater support from the Christian public.

Do not these steadily increasing figures give us a reason for the increasing success of both Foreign and Domestic Missions?

SOME OTHER FACTS OF SAD IMPORT.

The following amounts are spent annually for the following objects:

Contributions for For. Mis. in U. S. in 1880 . . .	\$2,260,136
For Home Missions " " " " . . .	2,842,923
For Church expenses in N. Y. City " " . . .	3,000,000
For support of police " " " " . . .	4,000,000
For public amusements " " " " . . .	7,000,000
Cost of police, courts, and charities chargeable to liquor traffic, in N. Y. City in 1880 . . .	9,000,000
Taxes on tobacco in U. S. " " . . .	38,870,140
Spent in drinks in N. Y. City " " . . .	60,000,000
(Or, \$49.70 for every soul.)	
Taxes on liquor in U. S. in 1880	73,015,312

WORKS TO BE CONSULTED.

The works to which we will refer the reader for further information on the subjects treated in these pages are: "The Problem of Religious Progress," by Rev D. Dorchester, D.D., published by Phillips & Hunt, 805 Broadway, New York; it is full of statistics on all the different denominations both in this country and abroad. "Modern Missions: Their Trials and Triumphs," by Dr. Young, is considered one of the best on the general subject of Foreign Missions. "The Mohammedan Missionary Problem," by Rev. H. H. Jessup, D. D., is a forcible presentation of this subject.



THE PROBLEM OF RELIGIOUS PROGRESS.

By DANIEL DORCHESTER, D.D.

603 PAGES. PRICE, \$2.

This is pre-eminently a book for the times.—*Christian Guardian*.

The reader is impressed with the great care taken in preparing the computations, the evident candor with which they have been prepared, and the magnitude of the problem to which they have been applied.—*The Watchman*.

A remarkable book. Nothing issued from the press in recent years can surpass it in interest for the Christian Church. . . . Its chapter on missions is worth many times the price of the book.—*Methodist Mission Rooms*.

One of the best books that have appeared recently.—*Western Christian Advocate*.

Few books are as valuable as this *thesaurus* of Christian statistics.—JUNIUS, in the *Christian Advocate*.

We hesitate not to say that, in our judgment, this is the most important contribution which has thus far been made to a subject grave and full of interest.—*Congregationalist*.

How hard to keep the "calm, judicial mind," and not run into the extreme of pessimism or optimism, in such a work as yours! You seem to have succeeded admirably.—*Rev. Samuel W. Dike, Royalton, Vt.*

If any one doubts the permanency of the Christian religion, or imagines that it is to be swept away by a few blatant infidels, he has only to turn to the pages of this valuable volume to be reassured.—*New York Evening Express*.

We scarcely remember to have read a book so well sustained throughout, and containing so much clear thinking and so many valuable facts in similar compass.—*Rev. J. M. Buckley, D.D.*

Dr. Dorchester has probably gathered the most correct ecclesiastical statistics ever gathered in this country.—*Rev. B. K. Pierce, D.D.*

Its facts are its strength.—*New York Observer*.

It is impossible to close a study like this without looking behind and beyond the figures to the moral and social facts covered by them.—*New York Evangelist*.

The study of the book should not leave a faint heart in Christendom.—*Vermont Christian Messenger*.

A thoughtful and hopeful book.—*Boston Daily Advertiser*.

The book is a blessing to the universal Church.—*Rev. Smith Baker, Pastor of the First Congregational Church, Lowell, Mass.*

A book of more than ordinary interest to thoughtful people.—*Christian at Work*.

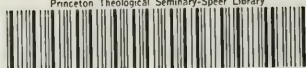
Dr. Dorchester's tables are the most complete and important that have yet been made, to our knowledge; and he has not twisted the figures to suit a preconceived idea.—*Examiner and Chronicle*.

There is a wonderful energizing life in these demonstrations.—*Methodist Quarterly Review*.

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